

REMARKS

Claims 38 and 70 are pending in the subject application. Applicants have amended the specification and amended Figures 1 through 37 with replacement Figures 1 through 35. Accordingly, upon entry of this Supplemental Amendment, claims 38 and 70 are still pending and under examination.

In making these amendments, applicants neither concede the correctness of the Examiner's rejections in the August 11, 2003 Final Office Action, nor abandon the right to pursue in a continuing application embodiments of the instant invention no longer claimed in this application. Applicants maintain that these amendments to the specification and drawings do not raise any issue of new matter, and that these claims are fully supported by the specification as originally filed. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request that this Supplemental Amendment be entered.

In view of the arguments set forth below, applicants maintain that the Examiner's objections and rejections made in the August 11, 2003 Final Office Action have been overcome, and respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw same.

Formalities

Drawings

In the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review issued concurrently with the August 11, 2003 Final Office Action, the Draftsperson made certain objections to the drawings, specifically Figures 23A-1 thru 25 and 28, submitted in connection with the subject application.

In applicants' December 11, 2003 Amendment In Response, applicants canceled Figures 23A-1 thru 23E-3 and 28 and attached 2 sheets of new, corrected formal drawings for Figures 24 and 25. Replacement Figure 24 corrected the poor line quality present in the original Figure 24. Replacement Figure 25 corrected the size of numbers, letters and reference characters corrections present in the original Figure 25.

Applicants also noted in their December 11, 2003 Amendment that the applicants will amend the specification and Figures in light of the cancellation of Figures 23A-1 thru 23E-3 and 28 in due course.

In this Supplemental Amendment, applicants have hereinabove amended the specification and Figures in order to renumber the Figures and Figure notations throughout the specification in light of the cancellation of Figures 23A-1 thru 23E-3 and 28.

Applicants: Nicole Suciu-Foca et al.
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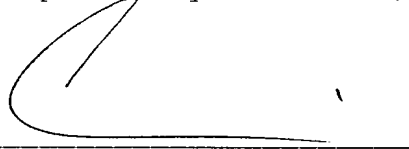
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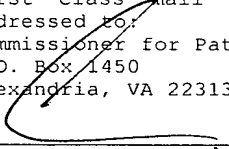
Applicants maintain that the claims pending are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, allowance is respectfully requested.

If a telephone conference would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, applicants' undersigned attorney invites the Examiner to telephone him at the number provided below.

No fee, other than the \$155.00 fee for an additional one-month extension of time, is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this Supplementary Amendment. However, if any additional fee is required, authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of such fee to Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,


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